

**ABSTRACT**

**FACTORS THAT BIND INTESTINAL TOXINS**

- 5           Methods for neutralizing bacterial toxins such as Shiga toxins and cholera toxins are disclosed. In a particular embodiment, a method is provided for treating a subject suffering from an infection caused by an Stx-producing organism by administering a therapeutically effective amount of a hop bract tannin obtained from *Humulus lupulus*. Also provided are methods for isolating polyphenolic compounds that bind Stx
- 10   molecules, and methods for detecting the presence of Stx molecules in a biological sample. In a disclosed embodiment, a subject infected with a Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli* strain is treated by enterically administering a high molecular weight fraction of hop bract extract to the subject.